



## TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **TRA Home Energy Conservation Plan Task Force Kicks Off Its Planning Efforts**

*Members to study and recommend statewide home energy conservation plan*

**NASHVILLE** – Members of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority's (TRA) Home Energy Conservation Plan Task Force met for the first time today to kickoff its efforts to review existing state conservation plans and make recommendations that will assist Tennessee consumers served by natural gas companies.

"The conclusions of this task force will be instrumental in our efforts to educate Tennessee consumers on how to make more conservative choices when it comes to home energy usage," said TRA Director Eddie Roberson. "With the anticipated and inevitable rise in gas prices, it is important that we take the best steps to save the most dollars for our consumers."

Roberson recommended the creation of the task force in August. The task force is charged with the responsibility of considering three (3) broad areas of implementation: education, diagnostics and remediation. An additional element of the task force's assignment is to recommend a research funding component to support and contribute to the efforts of worthwhile research of natural gas efficiency.

"We are glad that this task force has begun its efforts to bring forward positive change for Tennessee consumers," said TRA Chairman Sara Kyle. "This task force will serve as a helpful and necessary resource for examining the path Tennessee should take in the conservation of energy and we are confident that it is off to a good start."

The formation of the task force was the first step toward a statewide home energy conservation program within the counties served by the regulated local natural gas companies. The task force is comprised of members of the TRA staff, representatives from Atmos Energy; Chattanooga Gas; Gas Technology Institute; Alliance to Save Energy; AARP; Attorney General Office of Consumer Advocate and Protection Division; University of Tennessee Energy, Environment and Resources Center; Piedmont Gas; National Regulatory Research Institute; Department of Human Services and Kilowatt Ours.

Recommendations from the task force are to be presented to the TRA by November 10, 2006.

The mission of the TRA is to promote the public interest by balancing the interests of utility consumers and providers. For more information on the TRA, visit online at [www.state.tn.us/tra](http://www.state.tn.us/tra).

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